

How does the Montana Department of Transportation develop road construction projects?

We all know of a road in our community that could use work. Roads need to be updated to accommodate more traffic, they need to be maintained for a smooth ride, or they need to be entirely rebuilt simply due to age or capacity needs. But with 25,000 miles of roadway to consider, how does the Montana Department of Transportation decide which road construction projects are prioritized and constructed every year?

1. DEVELOPMENT PHASE

is when, how, and why projects are taken from a need to an action.

2. SURVEY PHASE

is when projects are thoroughly mapped for further consideration. This phase includes preliminary studies and research to determine the feasibility of the project features.

3. DESIGN PHASE

occurs once the project has been determined to be feasible. During the design phase, detailed plans are created to guide construction- that includes taking into account all of the environmental, hydrological, geological, electrical, and survey data that was collected in the survey phase.